

REMARKS

Claims 1-16, 41-50, and 66-68, and 80-87 are pending in the current application, and claims 1-16, 41-50, 66-85 are rejected. Claims 17-40, 51-65, and 69-70 are cancelled, claims 1, 5-9, 13-14, 41, 43, 47-48, 66-68, 71-76, 78-82, and 84-85 are amended, and claims 86-87 are newly added. For the reasons discussed below, the Applicants' attorney requests that the examiner allow all of the pending claims. **But if the examiner does not allow all of the claims after considering this Response, the undersigned Applicants' attorney requests that the examiner contact him to schedule and conduct a telephone interview before issuing a subsequent Office Action.**

Objections To Claims 66, 67, 73, 74, and 78

The Applicants' attorney disagrees with this objection, because the examiner's proposed amendments would result in split infinitives, which is a grammatical error. Therefore, the Applicants' attorney requests that the examiner withdraw this objection.

Rejection Of Claims 1-16, 41-50, And 66-85 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶1 As Failing To Comply With The Written-Description And Enablement Requirements

The amendments to claims 1, 5-9, 13-14, 41, 43, 47-48, 66-68, 71-76, 78-82, and 84-85 render this rejection moot; therefore, the Applicants' attorney requests withdrawal of this rejection.

As an example, claim 1 as amended recites a hardwired-pipeline circuit operable to receive a message that includes data and that includes a header having information identifying the data, to generate, from the information, an identifier indicating

a processing pipeline, and, in response to the identifier, to process the data with the indicated processing pipeline.

For example, referring, e.g., to FIG. 5 and paragraphs [94] – [101] of the patent application, in an embodiment a pipeline unit 78 (hardwired-pipeline circuit) is operable to receive a message that includes data and that includes a header having information identifying the data, to generate, from the information, an identifier indicating a processing pipeline 74, and, in response to the identifier, to process the data with the indicated processing pipeline 74.

Although remaining claims may have scopes that are different from the scope of claim 1, these claims are amended to generally recite header information that identifies data.

Furthermore, because this application has been in prosecution for so long, the assignee would like to proceed with an appeal if the examiner does not allow the claims. Therefore, the Applicants' attorney requests that the examiner assist him in putting the application in condition for appeal, and in clarifying and minimizing the issues for appeal.

CONCLUSION

In the event additional fees are due as a result of this amendment, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency of fees submitted herewith, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-1897.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful, he is respectfully requested to contact the Applicant's attorney at (425) 455-5575.

Dated this 13th day of December, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,
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